

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Reissue Patent Application:

Applicant : Gurtej S. Sandhu
Assignee : Micron Technology, Inc.
Reissue Serial No. : 10/035,828
Filed : December 28, 2001
Attorney Docket No. : 500042.02

Title : METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ENDPOINTING MECHANICAL AND
CHEMICAL-MECHANICAL POLISHING OF SUBSTRATES

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Corresponding Issued U.S. Patent:

Patent No. : 6,007,408
Issued : December 28, 1999
Serial No. : 08/917,665
Filed : August 21, 1997
Examiner : George Binh Minh Nguyen
Art Unit : 3723

MAIL STOP REISSUE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SUPPLEMENTAL REISSUE DECLARATION

Sir:

As below-named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below.

I believe that I am the original, first and joint inventor of the innovative subject matter described and claimed in the application for reissue of U.S. Patent No. 10/035,828, which is entitled "METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ENDPOINTING MECHANICAL AND CHEMICAL-MECHANICAL POLISHING OF SUBSTRATES."

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified U.S. reissue patent application, INCLUDING BOTH THE ORIGINAL CLAIMS AND THE NEW CLAIMS PRESENTED IN THE ENCLOSED PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulation, § 1.56(a).

I believe the above-identified original patent 6,007,408 to be partly inoperative, by reason of the patentees claiming less than we had a right to claim. For example, claim 1 of the '408 patent is limited to a method for stopping polishing of a substrate at a desired endpoint comprising sensing the temperature of byproducts produced from polishing the substrate. Therefore, I am implementing my right to claim at least methods comprising sensing of a characteristic other than temperature to determine the polishing endpoint, and also methods comprising sensing of characteristics of materials other than the byproducts produced during the polishing of the substrate. All errors which are being corrected in the present reissue application up to the time of filing of this declaration arose without any deceptive intention on the part of the applicant.

Accordingly, the Preliminary Amendment filed with the Reissue Application on December 28, 2001, presents additional independent method claims that are the error noted above. These independent claims have been newly drafted to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the invention. The Preliminary Amendment also presents additional dependent claims. I believe that my invention is at least as broad as these claims.

Every error in the patent which was corrected in the present reissue application, and is not covered by the prior declaration submitted in this application, arose without any deceptive intention on the part of the applicant.

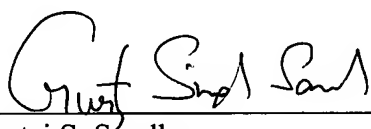
I do not know and do not believe that the claimed invention was ever known or used in the United States of America before my invention thereof.

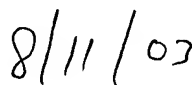
I do not know and do not believe that the claimed invention was ever patented or described in any printed publication in any country before my invention thereof.

I do not know and do not believe that the claimed invention was ever patented or described in any printed publication in any country more than one year prior to the filing date of the original U.S. application.

I do not know and do not believe that the claimed invention was ever in public use or on sale in the United States of America more than one year prior to the filing date of the original U.S. application.

I hereby declare that all statements made of my knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements are made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and may also jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.


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Date

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